



## Democratic State of the Union Response Center

<http://democrats.senate.gov> - <http://democrats.gov> - <http://HouseDemocrats.gov/>

### SAFEGUARDING WORKER PENSIONS

	DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS
Make Sure CEOs Play By the Rules	<b>YES</b>  Eliminate special treatment for executives while rank and file workers wait to recover lost pension benefits.	<b>NO</b>  Permits companies to protect millions of dollars in pension benefits for a few top executives.
Protect Pensions of Older Workers	<b>YES</b>  Companies that want to change their pension systems should be required to provide older workers with the same amount of benefits they would have received under the existing pension plan.	<b>NO</b>  Republicans want to allow corporations to conduct cash balance plan conversions that could wipe out half the value of an older employee's traditional defined benefit pension.
Provide Workers With Impartial Financial Advice	<b>YES</b>  Provide for independent financial advice for employees when company stock is offered as an investment option.	<b>NO</b>  Allow self-interested investment firms to be the principal financial advisors to employees.
Ensure Workers Have a Voice	<b>YES</b>  Ensure employee representation on pension boards managing their money.	<b>NO</b>  Fail to ensure employee representation on pension boards.
Provide Workers with the Flexibility to Manage their Pensions	<b>YES</b>  Give employees the right to diversify company-matched stock within 3 years, so that CEOs can't dump their stock while employees are forced to hold on to theirs.	<b>NO</b>  Employees are locked in, while executives cash out. Republicans leave employees locked into company stock investments for years, while corporate executives can cash out millions in stock options, executive type 401(k)s, and bonuses.